

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-17 (Canceled).

Claim 18. (Currently Amended) A powder composition comprising an iron or iron based powder, wherein less than about 5% of the powder particles have a size below 45 μm , up to 1% by weight of graphite, and a lubricating amount of an ~~alkylakoxy~~ alkylalkoxy or polyetheralkoxy silane, wherein the alkyl group of the alkylalkoxy silane and the polyether chain of the polyetheralkoxy silane include between 8 and 30 carbon atoms, and the alkoxi group includes 1-3 carbon atoms.

Claim 19. (Previously Presented) The powder composition of claim 18, wherein the alkyl group and polyether chain of the alkylalkoxy or polyetheralkoxy silane has between 10 and 24 carbon atoms.

Claim 20. (Currently Amended) The powder composition of claim 18, wherein the alkylalkoxy or polyetheralkoxy silane is selected from the group consisting of ~~octyl-tri-methoxy~~ octyl-tri-methoxy silane, ~~hexadecyl-tri-methoxy~~ hexadecyl-tri-methoxy silane, and ~~polyethyleneether-trimethoxy~~ polyethyleneether-trimethoxy silane with 10 ethylene ether groups.

Claim 21. (Currently Amended) The powder composition of claim 18, wherein the ~~alkoxy~~ alkylalkoxy or polyetheralkoxy silane is present in an amount of about 0.05-0.5%.

Claim 22. (Currently Amended) The powder composition of claim 21, wherein the ~~alkoxy~~ alkylalkoxy or polyetheralkoxy silane is present in an amount of about 0.1-0.4%.

Claim 23. (Currently Amended) The powder composition of claim 21, wherein the ~~alkoxy~~ alkylalkoxy or polyetheralkoxy silane is present in an amount of about 0.15-0.3%.

Claim 24. (Previously Presented) The powder composition of claim 18, wherein at least 40% of the iron or iron-based powder consists of particles having a particle size above about 106 μm .

Claim 25. (Previously Presented) The powder composition of claim 24, wherein at least 60% of the iron or iron-based powder consists of particles having a particle size above about 106 μm .

Claim 26. (Previously Presented) The powder composition of claim 18, wherein at least 40% of the iron-based powder consists of particles having a particle size above about 212 μm .

Claim 27. (Previously Presented) The powder composition of claim 26, wherein at least 60% of the iron-based powder consists of particles having a particle size above about 212 μm .

Claim 28. (Canceled).

Claim 29. (Previously Presented) The powder composition of claim 18 further including alloying elements in an amount up to 10% by weight.

Claim 30. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 29, wherein the alloying elements are selected from the group consisting of Mn, Cu, Ni, Cr, Mo, V, Co, W, Nb, Ti, Al, P, S and B.

Claim 31. (Previously Presented) A method for preparing high density green compacts comprising the following steps:

- (a) providing an iron-based powder composition of claim 18;
- (b) uniaxially compacting the powder in a die at a compaction pressure of at least about 800 MPa; and
- (c) ejecting the green body.

Claim 32. (Canceled).

Claim 33. (Currently Amended) Powder composition comprising an iron or iron based powder, up to 1% by weight of graphite, and a lubricating amount of an ~~alkylalkoxy~~ alkylalkoxy or polyetheralkoxy silane, wherein the alkyl group of the alkylalkoxy silane and the polyether chain of the polyetheralkoxy silane include between 8 and 30 carbon atoms and the ~~alkoxy~~ alkoxy group includes 1-3 carbon atoms.

Claim 34. (Previously Presented) The powder composition of claim 33, wherein the alkyl group or polyether chain of the alkylalkoxy or polyetheralkoxy silane has between 10 and 24 carbon atoms.

Claim 35. (Currently Amended) The powder composition of claim 33, wherein the alkylalkoxy or polyetheralkoxy silane is selected from the group consisting of ~~octyl-tri-methoxy~~ octyl-tri-methoxy silane, ~~hexadecyl-tri-methoxy~~ hexadecyl-tri-methoxy silane, and ~~polyethyleneether-trimethoxy~~ polyethyleneether-trimethoxy silane with 10 ethylene ether groups.

Claim 36. (Currently Amended) The powder composition of claim 33, wherein the ~~alkoxy~~ alkylalkoxy or polyetheralkoxy silane is present in an amount of about 0.05-0.5%.

Claim 37. (Currently Amended) The powder composition of claim 36, wherein the ~~alkoxy~~ alkylalkoxy or polyetheralkoxy silane is present in an amount of about 0.1-0.4%.

Claim 38. (Currently Amended) The powder composition of claim 36, wherein the ~~alkoxy~~ alkylalkoxy or polyetheralkoxy silane is present in an amount of about 0.15-0.3%.

Claim 39. (Canceled).

Claim 40. (Previously Presented) The powder composition of claim 33 further comprising up to 10% by weight of alloying elements.

Claim 41. (Currently Amended) The powder composition of claim ~~46~~ 40, wherein the alloying elements are selected from the group consisting of Mn, Cu, Ni, Cr, Mo, V, Co, W, Nb, Ti, Al, P, S and B.